

REMARKS

The office action of February 14, 2008, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1 and 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over the patent to Yoshida.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Katzensteiner.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended claim 1, and added new claim 6.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness pointed out by the Examiner.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references and particularly to the patent to Yoshida, it can be seen that this patent discloses a seal structure for relatively rotational members. Yoshida does not disclose a sealing ring having a cylindrical, rolled sealing surface, against which an elastic sealing element, mounted nonrotatably in a holder connected to a chock, rests. The rolled nature of the sealing surface is a structural characteristic of the sealing surface and is not disclosed by Yoshida.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1 and 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Katzensteiner discloses a sealing arrangement. As with Yoshida, Katzensteiner does not disclose a sealing ring

HM-729

having a cylindrical, rolled sealing surface, against which an elastic sealing element, mounted nonrotatably in a holder connected to a chock, rests. The rolled nature of the sealing surface is a structural characteristic of the sealing surface and is not disclosed by Katzensteiner.

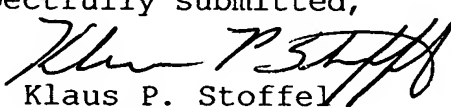
In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 14, 2008

HM-729

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 14, 2008.

By:   
Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: May 14, 2008